

**Amendments to the specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph:

[0022] FIGURE 4A [[4]] is a cross-sectional view of the tissue-dispensing apparatus shown in Figure 1, as taken along line 4-4;

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0022]:

[0022.1] FIGURE 4B is a cross-sectional view of the tissue-dispensing apparatus shown in Figure 4A, according to another advantageous embodiment of the claimed invention;

Please replace paragraph [0037] with the following amended paragraph:

[0037] For accomplishing these purposes, in the embodiment shown in Figure 4A [[4]], each endcap 32 has an annular rib 36 protruding inwardly. This annular rib 36 is intended to fit within an annular groove 38 that is formed within the distal end portion 34 of the sleeve 12. Furthermore, each endcap includes one or more notches 39 for receiving the distal end portion 34 of the sleeve 12 and allowing the rib 36 to engage the groove 38 of the sleeve 12. As a result, the endcap 32 is attached to the sleeve 12 in the snap-fit engagement. However, as shown in Figure 4B, it will be appreciated that the groove 38 can be formed within the endcap 32, instead of the sleeve 12. Likewise, the rib 36 can be formed within the sleeve 12, instead of the endcap 32. Additionally, it is further contemplated that various types of fastening methods other than the snap-fit engagement can be utilized for attaching the endcap 32 to the sleeve 12. For example, an endcap may be fixedly attached to the sleeve 12 by screw fasteners.